

W. F. "Mont" Hunter

ISSN 0003-4827

No known copyright restrictions.

Recommended Citation

"W. F. "Mont" Hunter." *The Annals of Iowa* 27 (1946), 252-252.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.6456>

Hosted by [Iowa Research Online](#)

Iowa counties; was an unsuccessful Democratic candidate for governor in 1920, and for United States senator in 1922; served as committeeman from Iowa on the Democratic national committee from 1924 to 1928; elected governor of Iowa in November 1932 and re-elected in 1934; elected United States senator from Iowa in 1936, and defeated for re-election in 1942; was delegate at large to the national Democratic convention in 1940; appointed deputy administrator of the Office of Price Administration in February 1943, but resigned the following November, remaining since in Washington representing various interests. The senator's father, James Herring, died at the age of 88 in February 1945, having resided some years at the Herring home in Des Moines.

W. F. (MONT) HUNTER, newspaperman and 45 years an Iowa editor, died September 12, 1945, at Webster City, Iowa; born in Eldora, Iowa, June 9, 1862, son of J. D. Hunter, a pioneer editor who came to Iowa in 1856 from Indiana, as owner and editor of the *Eldora Sentinel*, later residing at Iowa Falls. The family moved to Webster City in 1866, the father purchasing the *Hamilton County Freeman* from Charles Aldrich, its founder; and there "Mont" Hunter entered upon his life's work at fifteen years of age, becoming first a printer, then a reporter, and finally an editor. His grandfather, W. A. Hunter, at the age of twenty had founded an abolition newspaper in Indiana and operated a "station" on the "underground railroad" to help slaves escape into Canada, until those of the opposition sentiment wrecked his newspaper plant in 1857, when he joined his son in Iowa. In 1900 "Mont" Hunter succeeded his father in the editorial chair and since continuously has served his community and developed into a leader in his profession in the state. During his forty-five years' work upon the one paper he saw twelve other weeklies and six daily newspapers launched in Webster City, and only twice did his paper change its name; first in 1900 after merging with the *Tribune* to become the *Freeman-Tribune*, and in 1917 merging with the *Journal* to become the *Freeman-Journal*. The significant earlier name was retained from the days of the militant grandfather, whose flaming spirit and forthrightness descended to and oftentimes directed the thinking and utterances of his able and worthy scion. Mr. Hunter was married December 2, 1887, to Alletta Young, who died May 11, 1891; and on Thanksgiving day, 1899, was married to Minnie Jane Pettinger at Sioux City, the widow and two daughters surviving. A Republican through the years he enjoyed political leadership in his county and congressional district, though never seeking political office.

CLIFFORD P. SMITH, jurist and church leader, died at his home in Newton, Massachusetts, August 9, 1945; born near Geneva,

Copyright of *Annals of Iowa* is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.